

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12 PA-01  
SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 OIC-02 EB-08 MCE-00 /071 W  
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FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9555  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA  
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA  
USNMR SHAPE BE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 01944

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC, NATO, NPG  
SUBJECT: 21 FEBRUARY STAFF GROUP MEETING: NIKE HERCULES  
STUDY AND MINISTERIAL AGENDA

REF: (A) STATE 17029 (DTG 210017Z JAN 78), (B) USNATO 858  
(DTG 261719Z JAN 78), (C) USNATO 1078 (DTG 021232Z FEB 78),  
(D) STATE 33814 (DTG 082323Z FEB 78)

1. NIKE HERCULES STUDY. AT A MEETING OF THE NPG STAFF  
GROUP ON 21 FEBRUARY, IMS REP (KING) REPORTED THAT AGREE-  
MENT HAD NOT YET BEEN REACHED ON THE DRAFT MILITARY  
COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM ON THE SHAPE NIKE HERCULES STUDY.  
DISSENTING VIEWPOINTS INVOLVE TECHNICAL DISAGREEMENT OVER  
THE CHOICE OF SITES AS WELL AS SOME DIFFERENCE IN JUDGMENT  
REGARDING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SITES TO BE DENUCLEARIZED.  
UNTIL THE NATIONAL MILITARY AUTHORITIES RESOLVE THEIR  
DIFFERENCES WITH SHAPE, IT DOES NOT APPEAR POSSIBLE TO  
HAVE A PRODUCTIVE PERMREPS' MEETING ON THE STUDY.

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2. SPRING MINISTERIAL AGENDA. PER GUIDANCE REF D, WE  
INDICATED OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSED FRG WORDING FOR  
THE TITLE OF AGENDA ITEM I, AND THAT WORDING HAS NOW BEEN  
ADOPTED. DISCUSSION THEN FOCUSED ON AGENDA ITEM IIA (A),  
THE SPECIFIC ISSUE BEING WHETHER OR NOT THE DRAFT REPORT  
BY THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP ON SHORT- REPEAT SHORT-TERM  
MEASURES SHOULD GO TO THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE (DPC).

WHILE STAFF GROUP REPS RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO REPORT LONG-TERM IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DPC AS PART OF THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM, CONSENSUS APPEARED TO BE EMERGING THAT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THIS STAGE TO ONLY FORWARD THE SHORT-TERM MEASURES TO THE NPG. HOWEVER, SINCE NO STAFF GROUP REP HAD SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION, THE CHAIRMAN REQUESTED MEMBERS TO OBTAIN INSTRUCTIONS. HE SAID THE DRAFT AGENDA WOULD BE FURTHER DISCUSSED AT THE 27 FEBRUARY STAFF GROUP MEETING.

3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO ATTEMPT TO PREPARE A DRAFT NPG REPORT FOR THE DPC ON SHORT-TERM IMPROVEMENTS PRIOR TO NPG MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS. THE QUESTION OF FURTHER HANDLING OF THE SHORT-TERM MEASURES COULD BE TAKEN UP AT AND SUBSEQUENT TO THE APRIL NPG MEETING. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND MODIFYING THE REFERENCE DOCUMENT AT AGENDA ITEM IIA(A) (REF B) ACCORDINGLY.  
END COMMENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE. GLITMAN

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## Message Attributes

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